

#### **Minimum Flow Submission**

#### **Trotters Creek**

My name is Steven Dixon and I writing this submission regarding the minimum flow planned for Trotters creek. The creek has significant historical, recreational and ecological values which are held in very high regard by me and my family.

I support the proposed winter minimum flow of 35 liters a second and understand that the weir used to divert water into the storage pond is to be removed during winter and there will be no fish passage issues.

I oppose the proposed summer minimum flow of 8 liters a second for the following reasons:

- 1. The Trotters Creek management flows report clearly identifies that at least 20 liters a second is required to protect the 13 different fish species that are known to live within the stream. These species include giant kokopu, long finned eel, short finned eel, koaro, Canterbury galaxias, common bully, upland bully, giant bully, redfin bully, bluegill bully, lamprey, brown trout and inanga. In addition to these species, flounder also reside in mouth of the stream. Such high biodiversity should be given significant consideration and protection when setting a flow regime.
- 2. During dry years the creek can become low naturally during summer. The proposed minimum flow would compound the effect of these low flows and result in the stream being flat lined unnaturally for extended periods. This would result in algal blooms, high water temperatures and low oxygen levels.
- 3. Many of the native fish species that live in the creek have a sea going life cycle stage. It is vital that water abstraction does not result in the blockage of the stream mouth near the ocean which would prevent fish access to and from the sea.
- 4. Some of the white bait species such as inanga spawn in the lower part of the creek. Good water quality and flow levels are an important part of their spawning and juvenile habitat requirements.
- 5. The proposed level would not provide for adult trout passage during summer.
- 6. It has been estimated that a minimum flow of 20 liters a second would only impact on water abstraction on 4 days a year. We understand that there is 3.5 days of storage in the dam beside the creek. With a slight increase in storage a minimum flow of 20 liters a second would allow for water abstraction and protect the health of the stream at the same time.
- 7. Flat lining of the creek at 8 liters a second for extended periods would destroy the natural character of the stream.
- 8. The mean annual low flow of Trotters Creek has been estimated at 23 liters a second. The ORC has questioned this value after flow comparisons with other nearby rivers. Although the catchment area of Trotters creek may not be as large as the Shag or Waianakarua Rivers, the surface flows between pools in Trotters Creek can be greater than these rivers during a drought. This may be related to

- localised weather patterns, the vegetation in the upper catchment and the geology of the stream bed.
- 9. The actual amount of water used for irrigation and the amount of water that has over flowed from the storage pond back into the creek is not known. When there is uncertainty about flow and abstraction levels the Council should take a precautionary approach when setting minimum flow levels to allow for hydrological estimate errors and ensure the protection of the environment.

Finally, the intrinsic, recreational and ecological values of Trotters Creek are important for many members of our local community and people from outside the area as well. A meaningful minimum flow is required to ensure that the abstraction of water does not jeopardize these values and the health of the stream. Any financial gains from irrigation of farmland by one member of the community will not benefit the greater community unless the health of the stream is protected the first instance.

Yours Sincerely

Steven Dixon 39 Kennedy Rd Dunedin Otago



# SUBMISSION FORM Proposed Plan Change 1 Water Allocation and Use

to the Regional Plan: Water for Otago

Form 5, Clause 6 of the First Schedule, Resource Management Grundil

	7 2 JAN 2009	Office use only
Full name of submitter: MICHAEL RAMSAY	FILE No. RI221	
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Name of organisation (if applicable):  Postal address:  FLAT C, FLOCK 31, TOWER 12	PARK CEN	MRAL,
TSEUNG KWAN O. HONG KONG. Postcode:		
Telephone: Fax:		
Email: Michaelranscy 1226 @ yahos.com Contact Po	erson: Michael K	lams Ay
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If others made a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case wi (Cross out if you would not consider presenting a joint case).	th them at a hearing.	
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Signature of submitter:	Date:	
Please note that all submissions are made available for public inspect	ion.	
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My submission is:  (Include whether you support, oppose, or wish to have amended the parts in - 1 oppose The proposed Change refed - 1 reither support, not oppose the retained the right to do so after the next of end of MARCH 2009.	as item 6.	but reserve

I seek the following decision from the local authority: (Give precise details e.g. changes you would like made)
wish to see more specific details on the proposed changes (eg.) Delining actual minimum flows, and how these will be achieved, and who will be penalised, and via what
rules process, should these minimum flows be breached.  Especially as it will relate to surface water.
Fold
SUBMISSIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 5.00 PM, MONDAY 9 MARCH 2009.
Please fold and secure with a small piece of tape.

FreePost Authority ORC 1722



**Otago Regional Council** Private Bag 1954 Dunedin 9054

Attention Policy Team



# **SUBMISSION FORM Proposed Plan Change 1B Minimum Flows**

to the Regional Plan: Water for Otago

Form 5, Clause 6 of the First Schedule, Resource Management Act 1991.

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Office use only

Full name of submitter: P.D. R. LWDSAY-SALMON
Postal address: 30, Waia refer Valley Rd RD17 GIANO AGUINAT GOUNCIL
Name of organisation (if applicable):  Postal address: 30, Wara reker Valley Rd, RD17 FORMAT GOLINGIL  Postcode: 9491 72 JAN 2009
Telephone: 03-434-5677 Fax: FILE No. 2722
Email: P. ol Vindsay Sa lucin G. Clear. net: NZ Contact Person:
I wish do not wish (circle preference) to be heard in support of my submission.
If others made a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing. (Cross out if you would not consider presenting a joint case).
Signature of submitter: It would be sign on behalf of person making submission).
Please note that all submissions are made available for public inspection.
The parts of the proposed plan change that my submission relates to are:  (Give clear references if possible e.g. reference number, policy x, rule y)
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(Give precise details e.g. changes you would like made)	
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**Otago Regional Council** Private Bag 1954 Dunedin 9054

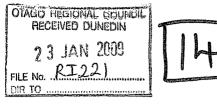
Attention Policy Team

OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCII, Private Bag 1954, Dunedin, Post code 9054. Atttn: Policy Team.

Management Flows in Aquatic Ecosystems in Trotters Creek

Minimum Flow Submission

Trotters Creek



For reasons outlined below and in an appended species list of aquatic invertebrates present in Trotters Creek, I oppose the proposed summer minimum flow of 8 litres per second.

I was the Curator of Invertebrate Zoology at the Otago Museum from 1974-2000 and am now the Honorary Curator, Entomology, there. In September 1980, I made a survey of the invertebrate fauna of Trotters Creek in the gorge area, for a course there held on 27-28 September 1980 run by "Otago University Extension", the course being titles "A case study of an Otago Scenic Reserve."

I was very surprised by the unusually large number of invertebrate species present in Trotters Creek, and have appended my list to this submission (note that names will have changed since it was made in 1980).

In addition to those aquatic invertebrates, there were significant numbers of native fish including giant Kokopu, Canterbury Galaxias, common bully, upland bully, giant bully, redfin bully, bluegill bully, lamprey, and several others, as well as brown trout.

The high species diversity of aquatic invertebrates and vertebrates in Trotters Creek must be maintained and protected by not setting a harmful flow regime.

Because Trotters Creek becomes naturally low-flowing in dry summers, a proposed minimum flow would result in algal blooms, high water temperatures, low oxygen levels, and likely loss of species diversity.

Please note that not only is the area unusually rich in terrestrial native invertebrates as well, it is an area of endemism – species found nowhere else. E.g., the locally endemic "Mountain daisy" *Celmisia hookeri*, more or less confined to the Horse Range and conspicuous on the high ledges in Trotter's Gorge. A distinctive invertebrate fauna in the area seems to have resulted from an overlapping of Otago and Canterbury faunas and a unique element confined to the Trotters Creek catchment. (A distingishable Central Otago and eastern Otago invertebrate fauna has its northern boundary roughly along the St. Bathans, Kakanui, and Horse Ranges, although further inland, it extends to the Waitaki River, while the South Canterbury fauna is bounded in the east by the same hills. There is a large carabid ground beetle fauna in the Trotters Creek catchment. Two species, a *Megadromus* and a *Holcaspis* species are found nowhere else, while *Magadromus haplopus* is restricted to the area around the eastern part of the Horse Range.

Thus Trotters Creek catchment supports a large number of localized plants and animals while Trotters Creek supports an unusually rich invertebrate and vertebrate aquatic fauna, which must be protected by not reducing the flow of water in Trotters Creek.

Yours sincerely,

Anthony Harris.

31 Maybank St., Opoho, Dunedin. Phone 4747474 (ex. 859) day, 4739475 night.

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# CHARACTERISTICS OF THE TROTTERS GORGE INVERTEBRATE FAUNA

A distinctive Central and Eastern Otago invertebrate fauna has its northern boundary roughly along the St.Bathans, Kakanui, and Horse Ranges (although further inland, it extends to the Waitaki River), while the South Canterbury fauna is bounded in the south east by the same hills. This has resulted in Trotters Gorge having a distinctive fauna, comprised partly of overlapping Otago and Canterbury faunas, and a unique endemic element consisting of species restricted to the area around Trotters Gorge, and which may be autochthonous.

Many polytypic species have distinctive Central Otago and Canterbury populations. These break down in the vicinity of Trotters Gorge, and intermediate hybrid individuals with a combination of Otago and Canterbury characters occur there.

The spider wasp Priocnemis (Trichocurgus) carbonarius

Wow Priocnemis (Trichocurgud Crawi)

and an undescribed species provides a good example of this

characteristic. Otago females of the first species have a

small space between the eye and the base of the jaw (termed

the "malar space"), while this area is large in Canterbury

populations. The undescribed species shows the opposite condition,

the malar space is large in Otago and small in Canterbury.

Both species comprise mixed populations at Trotters Gorge with

a complete range of intermediates.

Striking examples of the distinctiveness of Trotters Gorge insects occur among the flightless Carabid ground beetles. Two undescribed species, a <u>Megadromus</u> and a <u>Holcaspis</u>, are found nowhere else but Trotters Gorge, while <u>Megadromus</u> haplopus is restricted to the area around the eastern part of the Horse Range.

Tubificidae

Limnodrilus sp.

Naididae

Chaetogaster sp.

PHYLUM ECTOPROCTA (POLYZOA)

Gymnolaemata

Paludicella articulata (figs. 7, 8) Superficially resemble colonial Hydrozoa like <u>Cordylophosa</u>, but are much higher organisms. The tentacles are arranged in a row, and form a structure called a "lophophore".

PHYLUM MOLLUSCA (Shells and their allies). (Most of the species list occur in front of the University hut.)

Gastropoda

Hydrobiidae

Potamopyrgus antipodarum (fig. 9, 10)

Lymnaeidae

Lymnaea tomoentosa (fig. 11)

Physidae

Gyrdulus kahuica (fig 12, 14

Physastra variabilis (fig. 14)

Bivalvia

Sphaeriidae

Sphaerium novaezelandiae (figs. 15, 16)

Pisidium (Rivulina) casertanum (fig. 17)

PHYLUM ARTHROPODA

Class. Crustacea

Ostracoda

Candonocypris candonoites (fig. 18)

Candonocypris sp.

Herpetocypris pascheri (fig. 19)

Cladocera

Chydoriidae

Chydorus sp. (fig. 20)

Copepoda

Cyclopidae

Macrocyclops sp. (fig. 21)

Amphipoda

Paracorophium excavatum (fig. 22)

Decapoda

Paranephros zealandicus (fig. 23) Freshwater crayfish

List of Macroinvertebrate species collected in Trotters Stream near the Otago University Hut on 24th May, 1980 (illustrated and annotated).

PHYLUM PORIFERA (Sponges)

Spongillidae

Ephydatia kakahuensis (A freshwater sponge)

PHYLUM COELENTERATA (Hydras, jelly fish)

Chlorohydra viridissima (fig. 1, 2)

Cordylophora idacustris (fig.3)

PHYLUM PLATYHELMINTHES (Flatworms)

Tricladida

Planariidae

Cura pinguis

Neppia sp.

Rhabdocoela

Phaenocopa sp.

Mesostoma ehrenbergii

Rhabdocoela sp.

PHYLUM NEMERTEA (Proboscis worms

Tetrastemmatidae

Prostoma sp. (fig. 4)

PHYLUM NEMATODA (Thread/round worms)

in det. (fig. 5)

PHYLUM ANNELIDA (segmented worms)

Hirudinae (leeches)

Glossiphoniidae

Placobdella maorica (fig. 6)

Oligochaeta (Annelids of the earthworm type)

Lumbricidae

Eiseniella sp.

Lumbriculidae

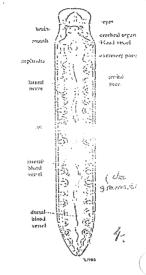
Lumbriculus sp.

Phreodrilidae

Phreodrilus sp.

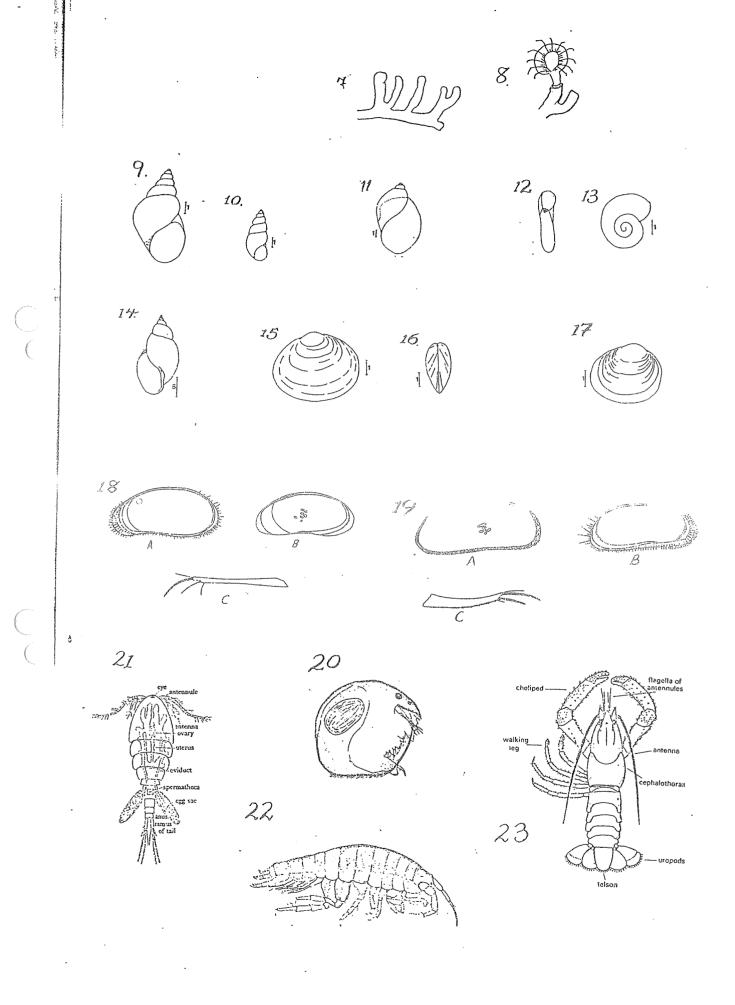


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Class. Insecta (Insects)
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O. EPHEMEROPTERA (Mayflies)

Siphonuridae

Nesameletus sp. (fig. 24) Small swimmer mayfly (Smaller than Oniscigaster. Feathery tails.)

Oniscigaster sp. (fig. 25) Large swimmer mayfly. Note the feathery tails. O.wakefieldi prefers quieter water, in which it swims.)

Ameletopsis sp. (fig. 26)

Coloburiscus sp. (fig. 27)

Siphlaenigmatidae

Siphlaenigma sp.

:: Leptophlebiidae

Zephlebia sp. a (fig. 28) (Larvae of all species of the genus

Zephlebia have double gills. Both tarsal claws alike e.g. on fore tarsus) (c.f.Deleatidium which genus it resembles)

Z. sp. b

Z. sp. c

Deleatidium sp a.(fig.29)(Most (but not all) Deleatidium tare of have single gills. Tarsal claws (e.g. of tarsus) dissimilar (not alike

D. sp. h

D. sp. c

Atalophlebioides sp.

Ephemeridae

Ichthybotus sp. (fig. 30) Larvae are unusual in that they burrow in fine shingle, mud silt, gills feathery.

O. NEUROPTERA (Lacewing, Alderflies)

Archichauliodes diversus (fig. 31) (Dobsonfly, Alderfly)

(The larva (black creeper) is very abundant in

Trotters Stream, under rocks: (New Zealand's only freshwater neuropteron.)

O. ODONTATA (Dragonflies damselflies)

Anisoptera (Dragonflies)

Procordullia grayi (fig. 32) Gray's dragonfly.

Zygoptera (Damselflies)

Xanthocnemis zealandica (fig. 33) Red damselfly

Austrolestes colensonis (fig. 34) Large damselfly, (males blue, females green)

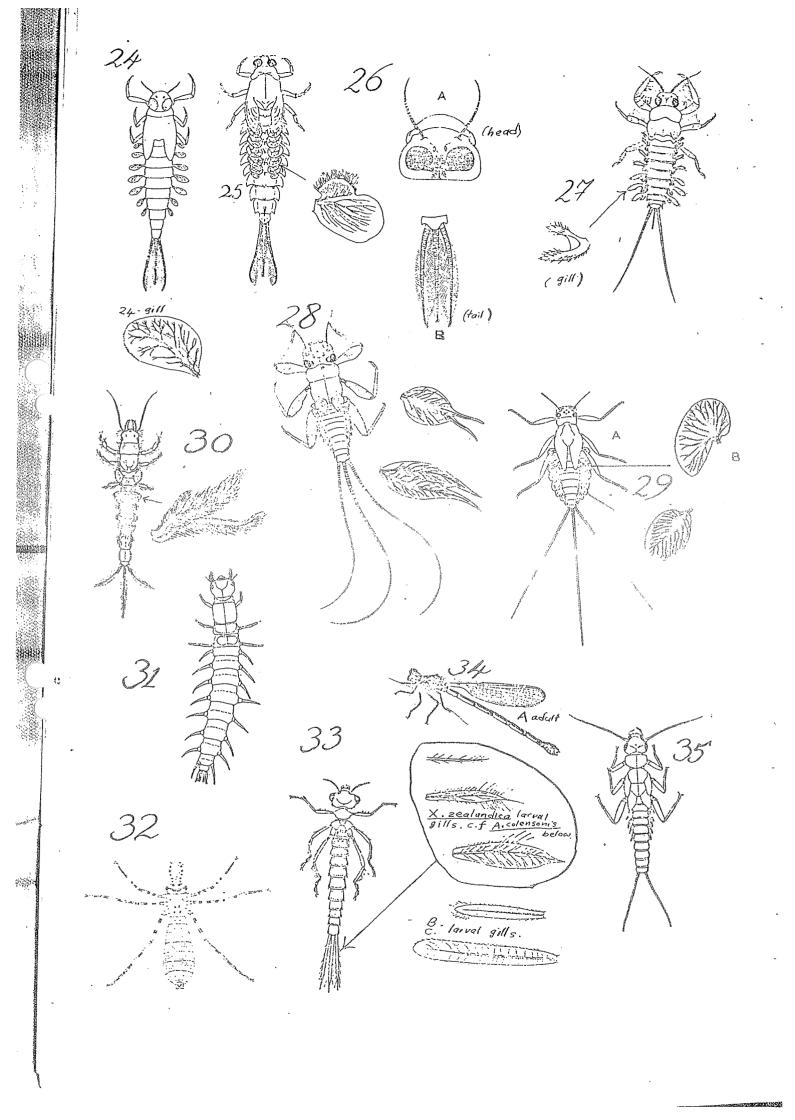
O. PLECOPTERA (Stoneflies)

Eustheniidae

Stenoperla sp. (fig. 35)

Austroperlidae

Austroperla sp.



Gripopterygidae

Megaleptoperla sp.

Acroperla sp.

Zelandoperla sp. (fig. 35)

Zelandobius sp.

Notonemoaridae

Halticoperla sp.

O. HEMIPTERA (True bugs)

Veriidae

Microvelia macgregori (fig. 36) Little water skater

Notonectidae

Anisops assimilis (fig. 37) Back-swimmer

Corixidae

Sigara arguta (fig. 38) Waterboatman

Hydrometra sp. (fig. 39) Water-measurer

O. COLEOPTERA (Beetles)

Dytiscidae (Carniverous waterbeetles

Antiporus strigosulus (fig 40)

· Liodessus deflectus

Rhantus pulrerosus (fig. 41)

Staphylinidae indet. (rcve beetles)

Hydraenidae'

Orchymandia sp. (fig. 42)

Helodidae (These beetles are very unusual in that the aquatic larvae have long, multi-segmented antennae. )

Cyphon sp. (fig. 43)

2 undescribed genera

Ptilodactylidae

Byrrhocryptus sp. (fig. 44)

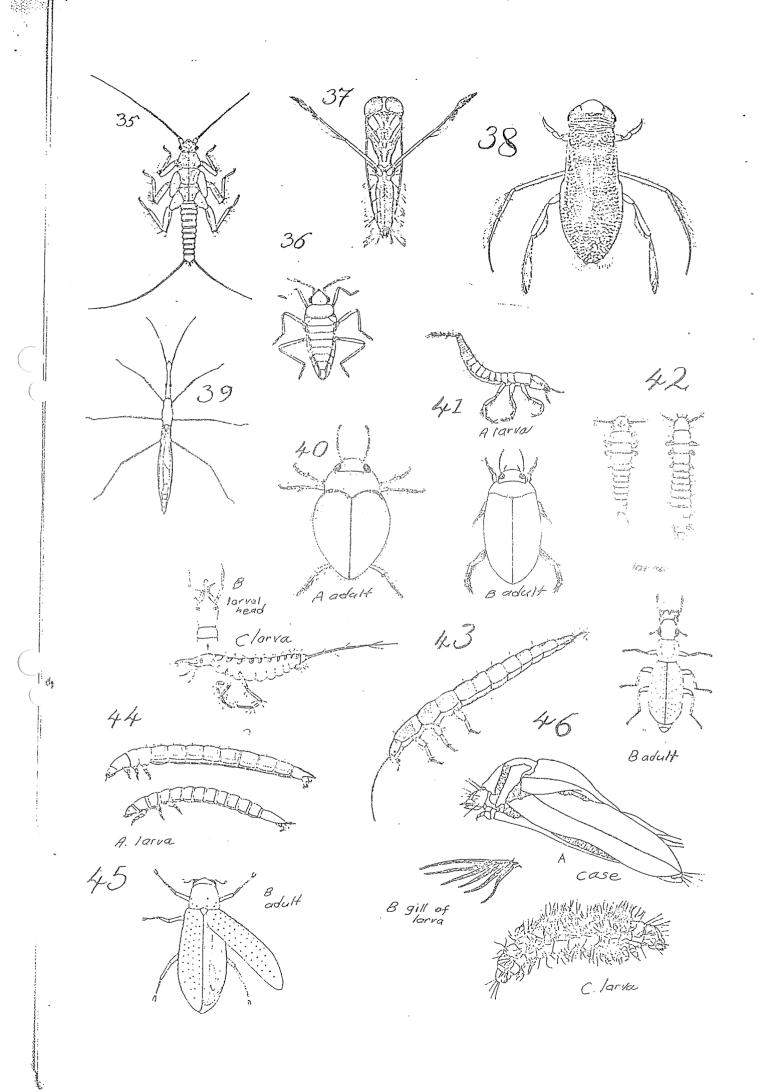
Elmidae

Hydora sp. (fig. 45)

O. LEPIDOPTERA (Butterfiles and moths)

Nymphula nitens

(Butler) (fig. 46) The pond moth.(Larvae only are aquatic, and breathe via gills. They live in underwater cases made of leaves joined with silk.)



O. TRICHOPTERA (Caddis flies)

Hydropsychidae (Larvae fish from nets; do not construct caves)

Aoteapsyche colonica (fig. 47)

Aoteapsyche tepoka

Polycentropodidae (Larvae spin nets and galleries; do not build cases)

Polyplectropus puerilis (fig. 48)

Philopotamidae (Larvae usually freeliving; do not build cases)

Dolophilodes (Hydrobiosella) Stenocerea (fig. 49)

Sericostomatidae (Larvae build conical, tapered, cases)

Pycnocentria evecta

Olinga feredayi (fig. 50)

Helicopsychidae (Larvae build spiral cases)

Helicopsyche albescens (fig. 51)(Case on underside of stones, e.g. in front of Trotters Gorge,
University hut.)

Leptoceridae (larvae build conical, tapered cases)

Triphectides obsoleta (fig 52)

Hudsonema aliena fig 53)

O. DIPTERA (True flies)

Tipulidae (fig. 54, 55). (Crane flies)

Limoniini indet.

Paralimnophora skusei (fig. 55)

Psychodidae (Moth flies)

Psychoda sp. (fig. 56)

Culicidae indet. (fig. 57) (Mosquitoes)

Dixidae indet. (fig. 58) (Dixa midges)(Live in backwaters.)

Chironomidae (fig. 59) (non-biting midges)

Tanypodinae indet.

Lobodiamesa sp.

Cricotopus sp.

Chironomus zealandicus

Polypedilum sp.

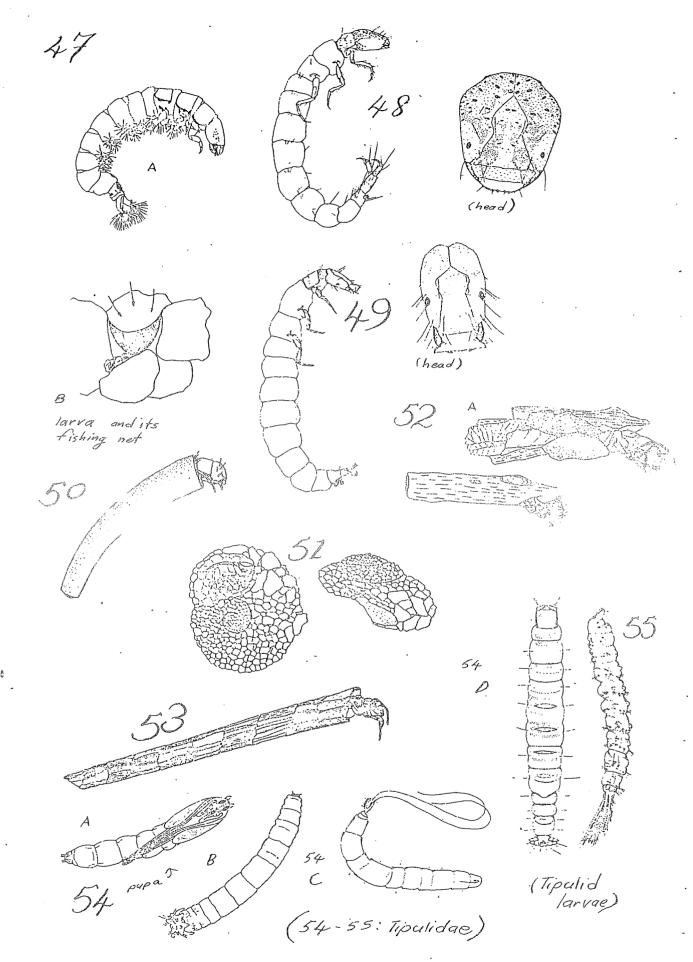
Ceratopogonidae ( 2 sp. in det) (fig. 60). (Biting midges)

(Larvae occur in moss and algae in streams,

are eel-like, and lash about.)

Simuliidae (sandflies)

Austrosimulium sp.(fig. 61)



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Tababidae indet. (fig. 62) (God flies)(Occur in backwater in front of University hut.)

Stratiomyidae (3 spp. indet) (fig. 63) (Solider flies) Note the thick, leathery skin of the larva (or "leatherback"))

Syrphidae (indet) (fig. 64) (Hoverflies and drone flies) (Larvae often have a posterior siphon (e.g. the "rat-tailed maggot"))

Empididae (indet) (fig. 65)

Blepharoceridae (indet) (fig. 66) (net-wing midges, torrent flies)

(Larvae have a row of ventral suckers. On stones

in swiftly flowing water.)

Ephydridae (indet)

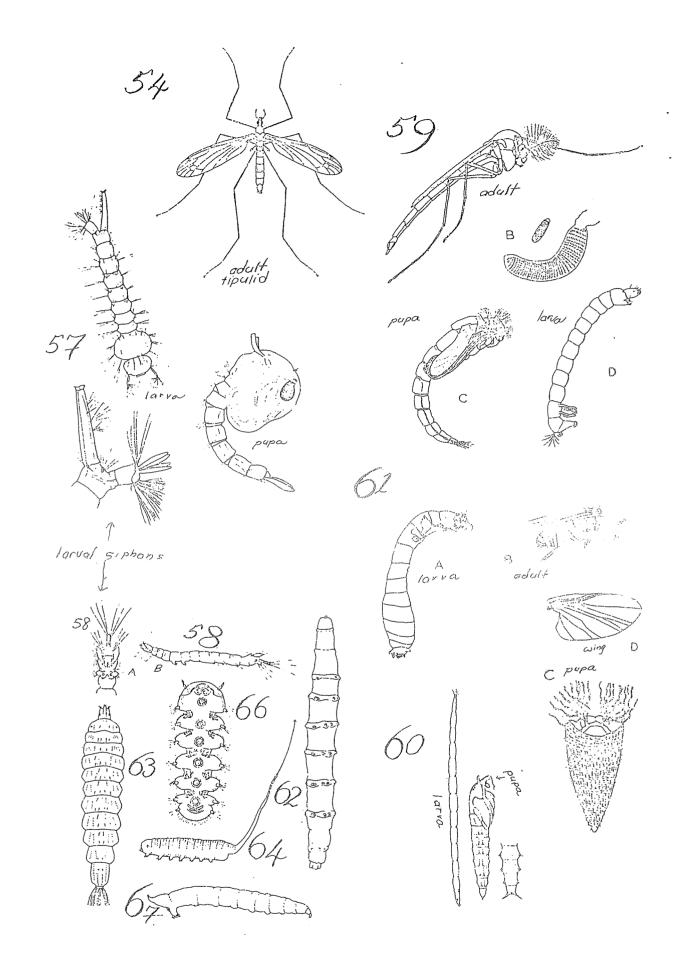
Muscidae (indet) (fig. 67) (Houseflies)(Some species have aquatiliarvae. One of these occurs in the sedges in front of the University hut.)

Class ARACHNIDA (Spiders and their allies)

Araneidae (True spiders)

Linyphiidae

Mynoglenes titan . This small spider spins its very very



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# SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY (over):

The following books and papers may be consulted for the identification of New Zealand stream invertebrates, and most of the will be available in the Trotter's Gorge hut.

(UPDATE)

The most useful general reference appeared a year after this list was written, viz.

Winterbourne, M.J., & Gregson, K.L.D. 1981. Guide to the Aaquatic insects of New Zealand. <u>Bulletin of the Entomological Society of New Zealand</u> 5:80p.

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- USINGER, R.L. 1956. Aquatic Insects of California.

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#### MOLLUSCA

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## CRUSTACEA

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- PENNIKET, J.G. 1962. Notes on New Zealand Ephemeroptera III.

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## PLECOPTERA (stoneflies)

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  J.R. Soc. N.Z. 1: 113 144.





## SUBMISSION FORM Proposed Plan Change 1B Minimum Flows to the Regional Plan: Water for Otago

Form 5, Clause 6 of the First Schedule, Resource Management Act 1991.

OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL 26 JAN 2009

DIR TO

Office use only

Full name of submitter: LYM, FUAM Richards Name of organisation (if applicable): . Postal address: 22 Craighall Crescent wa Delnested Postcode: 9010 I wish //do not wish)(circle preference) to be heard in support of my submission. f others made a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing. (Cross out if you would not consider presenting a joint case). Signature of submitter: . L. Eleckard (or person authorised to sign on behalf of person making submission). Please note that all submissions are made available for public inspection. The parts of the proposed plan change that my submission relates to are: (Give clear references if possible e.g. reference number, policy x, rule y) My submission is: (Include whether you support, oppose, or wish to have amended the parts identified above, and give reasons) more water lanks ... &

I seek the following decisio	on from the local authority:			
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Please fold and secure with a small piece of tape.

FreePost Authority ORC 1722

#### Sarah Valk

From:

M & J Hollis [mel.hollis@xtra.co.nz]

Sent:

Tuesday, 27 January 2009 08:55

To:

Policy Reply

Subject:

Trotters Creek!

Importance: High

... (19...).

Good morning,

My name is Melvyn (Mel) Hollis, 63 Stirling Cres, Mosgiel, Dunedin 9024 - 489 5452

I understand that you are calling for submissions for or against a minimum flow for  $\underline{\text{Trotters Creek}}$  of 8 litres per sec.

I oppose the setting of 8 litres per sec.

This ecosystem requires a more realistic minimum flow to maintain the aquatic creatures during the low flow summer period and from research studies I have recently viewed, the minimum flow should not be set at anything less than **20** litres per sec.

My personal opinion after travelling around this province is that subsequent councils over many years are allowing abstraction of far too much water out of our rivers and streams and it is high time that the ORC learnt to say "No" to continued requests for increased water abstractions!

I would strongly urge the ORC to re-evaluate the minimum flows for the Taieri, & Shag Rivers also, as they are all allowed to drop far to low during the summer period, which reflects disgracefully on current attitudes to the importance of our waterways for future generations.

I also believe that the ORC has sadly neglected responsibility towards the Waikouaiti River and it is high time that a realistic minimum flow was set for this waterway too!

Sincerely

Mel Hollis, Dunedin

OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL RECEIVED DUNEDIN 27 JAN 2003 FILE No. RT 221





# SUBMISSION FORM

# **Proposed Plan Change 1B Minimum Flows**

to the Regional Plan: Water for Otago

Form 5, Clause 6 of the First Schedule, Resource Management Act 1991.

17

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Full name of submitter: Noel George Trenathan
Name of organisation (if applicable):  Postal address: Lin dis vole Nº 3RD Crom well
Postal address: him dis voie 10 5RD Crom well
Postcode:
Telephone: 034452864 Fax: 03 4-2152865
Email: //era/lan @ xtra - co-172 Contact Person: OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL
I wish / do not wish (circle preference) to be heard in support of my submission.
f others made a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing No. (Cross out if you would not consider presenting a joint case).
Signature of submitter: Date: 24 7 09.  (or person authorised to sign on behalf of person making submission).
Please note that all submissions are made available for public inspection.
The parts of the proposed plan change that my submission relates to are:
(Give clear references if possible e.g. reference number, policy x, rule y)
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(Include whether you support, oppose, or wish to have amended the parts identified above, and give reasons)  That the minimum flow can be set as  low as zero where streams have been  dry on occasions over the past soyrs
(Include whether you support, oppose, or wish to have amended the parts identified above, and give reasons)  That the minimum flow can be set as  low as zero where streams have been  dry on occasions over the past soyrs
(Include whether you support, oppose, or wish to have amended the parts identified above, and give reasons)  That the minimum flow can be set as  low as zero where streams have been  dry on occasions over the past soyrs  plus, as aquatic ecosystems and natural  character have adapted.
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**Otago Regional Council** Private Bag 1954 Dunedin 9054

Attention Policy Team



# **SUBMISSION FORM**

# **Proposed Plan Change 1B Minimum Flows**

to the Regional Plan: Water for Otago

Form 5, Clause 6 of the First Schedule, Resource Management Act 1991.

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Office use only

Full name of submitter: HAYBULN Dr. CALPI	1 H.C.
Name of organisation (if applicable):	
Postal address: 2 Jets & St., MA'A, Dun Goid	
(2) (2)	Postcode: 9 2.2.
Telephone: (03) 471 0951	Fax:
Email:	Contact Person:
I wish /do not) wish (circle preference) to be heard in support of	my submission.
If others made a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case).	oint case with them at a hearing.
Signature of submitter:	5/2/09
(or person authorised to sign on behalf of person making submi	ssion).
Please note that all submissions are made available for pu	otago regional council RECEIVED DUNEDIN  9 FEB 2009  FILE NoRI221
The parts of the proposed plan change that my submission	relates to are:
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TROTTERS CATCHMENT, OFFOBER - APRIL MINIMU	n FLOW OF 8 Lives Serond
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(Include whether you support, oppose, or wish to have amended	
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THAT THE FLOW MINIMUM BE CONSIDERABLY HIGHER	2. Too LOW A FLOW WILL PREVENT VARIOUS
FIJH SPECIES GNJOYING THEIR NATURAL ACCES FROM	
WHICH MIGHT LONGHEN TO EXTENSED PORTOS TURING	

I seek the following decision from the local authority:
(Give precise details e.g. changes you would like made)
THE MINIMUM FLOW ROOM OCTOBER - APRIL BE LIFTED TO 20 LITRES (SETUND
•••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••
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SUBMISSIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 5.00 PM, MONDAY 9 MARCH 2009.

FreePost Authority ORC 1722

Please fold and secure with a small piece of tape.



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**Otago Regional Council** Private Bag 1954 Dunedin 9054

Attention Policy Team

### Sarah Valk

From:

Brian Turner [blturner@xtra.co.nz]

Sent:

Monday, 23 February 2009 16:35

To:

Policy Reply

Subject: submission/Trotters Creek

Minimum Flow Submission



## **Trotters Creek**

My name is Brian Turner. I live in Oturehua, Central Otago. I am a writer, poet, recreationalist and, in the eyes of many, a prominent interpreter of the nature and value of the southern environment. I've had a liking for Trotters Creek since my parents first took me there in the 1950s. As with a great many southern creeks, streams and rivers, I have seen it deteriorate over time, for reasons that must surely be all too familiar to staff and councilors of the ORC. So the question is, what are you going to do about helping stop the rot, and reverse it where possible?

When it comes to minimum flows they must be generous, not skimpy, marginal.

I support a winter minimum flow of 35 litres a second, 20 over summer, and ask that the weir used to divert water into the storage pond be removed during winter. Fish have to be able to get up and down the creek.

I believe someone has recommended a minimum summer flow of only 8 litres a second. That is outrageous. That would reduce the stream to a dribble of lukewarm piddle.

I have seen a draft of Mr Morgan Trotter's submission and declare my support for the points he makes and arguments he advances. They are sensible, informed, telling. Please heed them.

Brian Turner

Main Road

Oturehua

Central Otago 9339

blturner@xtra.co.nz



Monday, 23 February 2009

Policy Team Otago Regional Council Private Bag 1954 Dunedin 9054

Dear Sir/Madam



#### Re: Trotters Creek Minimum Flow Submission

My name is Richard John Fitzpatrick and I wish to make a personal submission in the matter of setting a minimum flow on Trotters Ck in North Otago. I have been a keen angler all of my life and have always had an interest in all facets of stream biology. I have also had over 10 years of professional involvement in stream surveys across Otago and Southland, including electric fishing, drift diving, angler surveys and habitat/water quality assessment. In that time I have studied many small streams similar to and including Trotters Ck.

My Submission is that I oppose the setting of the summer minimum flow at 8 litres per second.

I would like to support a summer minimum flow of at least 20 litres per second and a winter minimum flow of at least 35 litres per second to protect the natural biodiversity present in Trotters Ck.

My reasons for opposing this proposed minimum flow are as follows:

- 1. The regional council's own report (Management Flows for Aquatic Ecosystems in Trotters Creek, pp 14) recommends that a flow of 20 litres per second would be needed to protect the biodiversity in this stream. Therefore I believe it would be irresponsible to allow a minimum flow of any less than this figure.
- 2. In my experience, there are few streams with as many species of native and introduced fish as Trotters Ck. Many streams have historic records of various species of fish, but when you go and look nowadays many or even all of the recorded species are unable to be found. This can often be attributed to deterioration in habitat and/or water quality as a result of changing land use and/or intensification of existing use in the catchment. When I last surveyed Trotters Ck by electric fishing in 2007, I found at least 8 species of fish (I say at least 8 as some species of galaxid are difficult to distinguish in the field). On this occasion I was giving a demonstration for local iwi on some of the values in the stream. The abundance of fish was impressive and I believe that a more in depth inspection would have revealed even more diversity.
- 3. The mean annual low flow for Trotters Ck is estimated at 23 litres per second, therefore a flow of 8 litres per second would only occur naturally under severe

drought conditions. It would also be very rare for this to extend over a period of more than a few days or possibly weeks at a time under natural conditions. Fish are adapted to cope with these low flows from time to time, but populations are depleted and require good intervening seasons to rebuild. Setting such a low minimum flow would potentially see the equivalent of severe drought conditions imposed on the creek every summer for up to 7 months without respite. This in my opinion would have a severe negative impact on both the abundance of fish and the diversity of fish species in Trotters Ck.

I believe that the Regional Council has a responsibility to take a precautionary approach to setting minimum flows to protect important natural resources of the province for future generations to enjoy.

I wish to be heard in support of my submission.

Regards,

Richard Fitzpatrick. BSc.

Return Address:

Richard Fitzpatrick

PO Box 8076 Dunedin 9010